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STUDENTS' MEETING AT CHALAKKUDI—PARTICULARS REGARDING

193. Mr. S. P. Luiz *(Nominated):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they are aware of a meeting of the students of Cochin State held at Chalakkudi on 2nd November 1946;

(*b*) what were the discussions and the nature of the resolutions passed at the meeting?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon (*Minister for Food and Education*):

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The meeting under reference was the All Cochin Students Congress Conference (first day). The speakers dealt with the necessity of the students taking part in the struggle for freedom, carrying into effect the constructive policy of the Indian National Congress, the establishment of a socialistic form of Government in India, etc. The resolutions to be introduced at the open session of the next day were discussed. The important resolutions discussed were:

(1) Protesting against the alleged repressive policy of the Travancore Government asking the Travancore State Congress to start a struggle to establish full responsible Government and promising the support of the students of Cochin.

(2) The Ministers should see to the conduct of a non-official enquiry into the Azhikode incident, failing which they should resign; promising support to Mr. Manakkalath if he undertakes the proposed fast.

(3) Establishment of a socialistic Government in the United Kerala.

(4) Temple-entry and penalising untouchability.

(5) Support to Temple-entry agitation in the State.

(6) Establishment of full responsible Government in Cochin based on adult franchise.

(7) Free education to the poor and taxing the rich and the land-lords to make up the deficit in revenue.

(8) Protest against ban on students taking part in politics in Travancore.

(9) Request to India Government to withdraw the ban on Rev. Keithan.

(10) Proper facilities to conduct classes (supply required furniture and teachers, etc.).

(11) Support to teachers in their agitation to improve their condition.

(12) Co-operation of all in the relief measures to be started by the students congress in view of the position in Travancore.

Note.—These and some other resolutions of minor importance were adopted at the meeting held on 3rd November 1946.

Mr. S. P. Luiz *(Nominated):* May I know, Sir, who were the speakers at this meeting?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* I don't exactly remember, who the speakers were, but I understand, in the cultural conference attached to this conference, one of the professors of the Maharaja's College was a speaker.

Mr. S. P. Luiz *(Nominated):* Is it a fact, Sir, that after the session, the merchants, shop-keepers of Chalakkudi were compelled to close down their shops and shops were picketted?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* I don't think that information is correct. There has been no such incident.

Mr. S. P. Luiz *(Nominated):* Will the Government kindly go into that?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* There has absolutely been no such complaint.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, whether any one of those major resolutions passed by the future citizenry of Cochin communicated to the Government of Cochin?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* The Government have got information of these resolutions, that is why the answer is given. I want notice to say whether they were communicated.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* In the light of that answer, given by the Government, may I know, Sir, whether any action has been taken by them upon the resolution No. 3 Establishment of a Socialist Government in the United Kerala, on No. 7—Free Education to the poor and taxing the rich and the landlords to make up the deficit in revenue, No. 10—Proper facilities to conduct classes (supply required furniture and teachers, etc.)?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Eduction):* Regarding the Establishment of a Socialist Government in United Kerala, I believe the Hon'ble Member himself knows that it is not part of Government's duty. These resolutions express the ideology which the student-world place before themselves. Many of them are not intended for Government to take action and regarding No. 10, action has been taken on everything except, 'etc.'

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, in the light of the answer that action has been taken on everything except, "etc.", whether the schools of the State are now fully manned, sufficient to cope with the time-table prepared and put in for working in the schools? Can we take it like that?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* Sir, at a certain stage on account of paucity of hands, there have been paucity of teachers in some schools, but the difficulty has been tided over by suitable arrangements.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassen *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether the suitable arrangement is by supply of the necessary number of teachers or by any other make-shift arrangement?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* As far as possible, teachers have been supplied to all schools, but sometimes when service orders go to teachers, the teachers don't come and join because they may be elsewhere in service, but there is at present no difficulty for want of teachers. Government are aware that there was some difficulty felt in some schools for want of teachers and I may assure the Hon'ble Member and the House that every attempt will be made to see that no school suffers for want of teachers.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I thank the Government for that. May I know, Sir, whether in the suitable arrangements made by the Government to meet this difficulty is the shift system, that is teaching half the number for a certain period and the other half for another period. Has that been one of the suitable arrangements?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* Yes, shift system has been adopted in a few cases in order to get over that difficulty.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Do the Government think that it is fair to the tax-payer, the poor man who pays the money, that a return is given only to the extent of 50 per cent by this arrangement?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* Government think that 50 per cent is better than nil.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Have not the people of the State, Sir, to expect cent per cent return for the hard earned money of theirs paid to the Government?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* Government, Sir, are desirous to return 150 per cent.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Your desire is laudable. Have we not got a right to expect at least cent per cent return for our money?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* No, Sir, the people of the State have every right to expect governmental action in beneficial directions even if they don't pay.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* But when they pay, have they not a right to expect a return?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* Even when they don't pay they have a right.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* That is a different matter. Can I expect a straight answer to a straight question. I want an answer.

Mr. President: Order, order. The Hon'ble Member is just as well able to answer the question himself as the Government.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Fortunately for me I am not in that unhappy seat.

NEW SCALE OF PAY FOR NURSES—YEARLY INCREMENT—INFORMATION REGARDING

194. മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. കൊച്ചുകുട്ടൻ: താഴെ പറയുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്കു ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവൺമെണ്ടിൽനിന്നും സദയം മറുപടി പറയുമോ.—

(എ) പുതിയ തസ്തിക ആക്കിയതിനുശേഷം നഴ്സിനുള്ള Yearly increment എത്ര ഉയർത്തികയാണു";

(ബി) പുതിയ തസ്തിക ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിട്ട് എത്ര കൊല്ലമായി;

(സി) എത്ര ഇൻക്രിമെൻറ് കൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ടു";

(ഡി) Yearly increment ഇപ്പോൾ തടഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടോ; ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതിനു കാരണമെന്തു"?

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